

Heading Towards a New Generation of Polar Satellites

In August, a \$4.5 billion contract was awarded to TRW Inc. of Redondo Beach, California, for the acquisitions and operations phases of the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS). In December, TRW became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Northrop Grumman Corp. NPOESS combines the nation's military and civilian environmental satellite programs into a single national system that will significantly improve weather forecasting and climate prediction. In addition, NPOESS will provide global coverage of meteorological conditions for civil, military, and scientific purposes while cutting operational costs dramatically.

NOAA Satellite Partners & Constituents Meet at MAXI 2002

The NPOESS Integrated Program Office hosted an information exchange conference October 29 –31, 2002. The MAXI Review served as a venue for reviewing the status of U.S. environmental satellite programs. Approximately 420 attendees represented the military, civil and commercial satellite sectors, as well as universities and EUMETSAT, the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites. MAXI Review 2003 will be hosted by the United States Air Force – a member of the tri-agency NPOESS Program.



Mobile command station and portable field terminal are demonstrated at the NPOESS Maxi Review.